

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction



Friday, February 13, 2009

*"I do the very best I know
how - the very best I can;
and I mean to keep on
doing so until the end." ~
Abraham Lincoln (Born
February 12, 1809)*

Commissioner Buss promoted Michael Lloyd, Superintendent of Plainfield Re-entry Educational Facility (PREF), to the position of Director of Transition Facilities and Community-Based Programs. PREF staff would like to congratulate him and wish him the best of luck in his new role.

Congratulations to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Major James Basinger, who was promoted this week to Assistant Superintendent of Operations at the maximum-security facility. He is an highly knowledgeable 18-year veteran of the Department with 24 years of distinguished military service. Assistant Superintendent Basinger is a Sergeant Major with the 76th Brigade.

Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility celebrated its 17th annual Black History Program this week. The keynote speaker was Dr. Eugene White, Superintendent of Indianapolis Public Schools. Dr. White's speech was entitled, "The Cost of Liberation is High, but the Cost of Freedom is Higher."

Bob Dixon and Bill Lee, from Putnamville Correctional Facility, and Bill Fielding, Coordinator of Highway Operations with the Indiana Department of Transportation, showcased the Hoosier Roadside Heritage "Wildflower" Project and energy initiatives at DePauw University's Sustainability Expo. The project is a partnership between INDOT and PCF.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation for 9 students in the program. To date, 141 students have graduated from the 6-month intensive program. The program boasts a 90% success rate, with only a 9.9% recidivism rate. Parents, grandparents, siblings and staff attended the ceremony.

Dan Meadows, a Case Manager at New Castle Correctional Facility, was selected by the Indiana Law Enforcement Torch Run Committee and represented Indiana, joining other Law Enforcement Officers in the final leg of the Special Olympics Torch Run for the World Games held in Nampa, Idaho. Meadows was assigned to a team of runners and carried the torch for nine days before it was used to ignite the cauldron at the Opening Ceremonies.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility received a 100% on Mandatory Standards and 96.6% on Non-mandatory Standards. This was their Year 2 Review.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Sergeant Tim Nickles was promoted to Lieutenant. Superintendent Mize praised Lt. Nickles for the outstanding job he has done in drastically reducing the number of offender grievances filed at the facility.

Westville Correctional Facility has created a new program unit called "TC Prep." The 74 bed unit is specifically designed for interested offenders to begin the process of entering the Therapeutic Community. The unit also allows offenders to experience the TC philosophy while waiting for a place in the community. The facility currently has 436 offenders assigned to their Therapeutic Community.

The Indiana University Northwest Art Galleries came to the Indiana State Prison and interviewed offenders regarding the artwork which will be displayed during an art exhibit at the gallery. The exhibit will run from March 6 to April 17. The hours for the exhibit will be Monday through Friday 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

Offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility's L Dorm (minimum housing) provided New Castle and the Henry County community with 15,518 hours of Community Service in last quarter of 2008.

Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted another Black History Program. Guest speakers included FOX59 Reporter Derrick Wilkerson and Indianapolis Metropolitan School Principal Clete Ladd. During the program, a reflection on the life of Julia Carson was conducted. Congresswoman Carson's son and two grandsons attended the event.

26 IDOC staff and volunteers were trained as PREP[®] facilitators this week at McCormick's Creek State Park. PREP, the divorce Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program, is part of the PLUS program offered at most IDOC facilities. The training was coordinated by IDOC Religious and Volunteer Services and funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Family Assistance.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner